

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DAMASC 06928 121546Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-13 /094 W

----- 032515

R 121505Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 013

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 6928

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, SY, LY, PLO, XF

SUBJECT: SYRIAN REACTION TO TRIPOLI LABOR CONFERENCE

REF: DAMASCUS 6819

1. SYRIA HAS REACTED SHARPLY TO CRITICISM OF ITS LEBANESE
POLICY EXPRESSED BY DELEGATES TO TRIPOLI LABOR CONFERENCE.
WE NOTE REPORTS THAT COMMITTEE DISPATCHED TO DAMASCUS TO CONVEY
PROPOSALS CONCERNING LEBANON ADOPTED BY CONFERENCE RETURNED TO
LIBYA AFTER FRUITLESS TWO-DAY WAIT TO MEET PRESIDENT ASAD.
SYRIA DELEGATION APPARENTLY WITHDREW FROM OCTOBER 7 MORNING
SESSION IN PROTEST OF PLO PROPOSALS. FINAL RESOLUTIONS, WHICH
REFLECT STRONG CONDEMNATION OF SARG POLICY IN LEBANON HAVE
RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY FROM DAMASCUS MEDIA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DAMASC 06928 121546Z

2. MEDIA DID, HOWEVER, GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO SPEECH OF

SYRIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO CONFERENCE IZZ AL-DIN NASSIR. NASSIR EXTOLLED HISTORY OF SYRIAN SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN CAUSE, ASSERTING THAT "WE SACRIFICE FOR PALESTINE WHILE OTHERS UTTER ONLY SLOGANS..." HE CLAIMED ALL ATTEMPTS TO SOW DISCORD BETWEEN SYRIA AND PLO WERE DOOMED TO FAILURE AND HE PLEDGED CONTINUED SYRIAN STEADFASTNESS TO CAUSE OF LIBERATING PALESTINE. NASSIR CRITICIZED SINAI AGREEMENT AND DEFENDED SYRIAN ROLE IN LEBANON. "OUR ENTRY INTO LEBANON WAS OPEN, HAD OPEN GOALS AND POSITIVE MOTIVES, AND CAME AT REQUEST OF LEGITIMATE LEBANESE INSTITUTIONS AND MASS APPEALS FOR HELP." HE CALLED UPON OTHER ARABS TO GRANT PALESTINIANS SAME RIGHTS GRANTED BY SYRIA. HE CONCLUDED BY ANNOUNCING WILLINGNESS TO FORM COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH FEDAYEEN WORK ON GOLAN; HE REMINDED AUDIENCE SYRIA'S BORDERS REMAINED OPEN FOR PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS TO STRIKE AT ENEMY.

3. COMMENT: NASSIR'S REMARKS ABOUT OPEN SYRIAN FRONTIERS AND READINESS TO UTILIZE GOLAN FOR GUERRILLA ACTION AGAINST ISRAEL STRIKE US AS RHETORICAL FLOURISHES DESIGNED TO DEMONSTRATE SYRIAN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN CAUSE CALLED INTO QUESTION BY OTHER DELEGATES. CONFERENCE APPARENTLY SUCCEEDED IN DEPICTING SYRIA AS ISOLATED IN REGION AS CONSEQUENCE OF SYRIAN POLICY IN LEBANON. BUT IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN HOW EFFECTIVELY ANNOUNCED BOYCOTT AGAINST SYRIA WILL BE IMPLEMENTED. LIBYAN FACILITATION OF CONFERENCE, FOLLOWING ABSENCE OF LIBYAN ATHLETES IN ARAB GAMES IN DAMASCUS, INDICATES GREATER LIBYAN DISENCHANTMENT WITH SYRIAN THAN HERETOFOR PUBLICLY EXPRESSED.
MURPHY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, MEETING DELEGATIONS, LABOR UNIONS, POPULAR SUPPORT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC06928
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760383-0472
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761062/aaaacbmz.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 DAMASCUS 6819
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIAN REACTION TO TRIPOLI LABOR CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, SY, LY, XF, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006